

**THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE
COLLEGE OF SOCIAL WORK**

SW-516 - SOCIAL WELFARE POLICY AND SERVICES

Course Outline

Fall 2003

Instructor: Jenny Jones, Ph.D.

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Office hours: Monday: 11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.; 4:30 p.m.- 5:00 p.m.

Wednesday: 2:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Or by appointment

Course Outline:

- I Defining Social Welfare Policy
- II Historical Development of Social Welfare Policy and Services and the Relationship to the Social Work Profession
- III Ethics in the Policy Process
- IV Nature of Social Policy and Social Policy Analysis
- V The Role of Policy Analysis in Understanding the Policy Process
- VI The Role of Policy Practice in Social Work
- VII Current Policy Issues and Strategies for Influencing Policy
- VIII Affecting Change in Social Welfare Policy

Course Requirements:

I. Attendance is required. Two classes may be missed without any consequence. For each class missed after three, five (5) points will be deducted from your final grade. Please notify me of tardiness/absences, although notification does not indicate excused absence /tardy.

II. A basic text has been selected and readings are listed in the bibliography. In addition to assigned articles, students are encouraged to read from the recommended selections and independently from the professional journals.

III. The course consists of a major service learning experience. Student will be assigned to a specific community based agency to work on a particular policy issue. The course will also

include lectures, class discussions, and small group class exercises. Students will be expected to: 1) complete assigned readings for preparation for each class session; (2) participate in class discussion/activities; and (3) complete all assignments. Graded assignments will include a mid-term examination, a group policy analysis paper, a group presentation, and completion of an individual journal. The final paper should be double-spaced and sources should be documented and referenced using APA format. No more than 50% of your sources should be obtained from Internet resources.

IV. The group policy analysis paper involves an in-depth analysis of a particular social problem and the policy used to alleviate the problem. The social problem will be mutually negotiated between you, the agency contact person and me.

The final grade will be determined as follows:

Mid-term exam	25%
Group Policy Proposal and Final Policy analysis paper	40%
Group Presentation	30%
Self-Reflective Journals	5%
Total	100%

Grading Scale:

The grading scale for this course is:

93-100	A
87-92	B+
83-86	B
77-82	C+
73-76	C
66-72	D
<65	F

Criteria for the assignments are as follows:

Group Policy Analysis Proposal

Identify the potential area of policy change for the specific policy issue chosen. Describe the chosen policy/issue. How does this policy affect vulnerable populations? Discuss why you believe your

chosen policy needs to change. Include objective factors such as impact on client populations, cost/benefit analysis, etc. Choose the policy analysis framework that will be used to analyze the policy. Describe what areas the analysis will need to focus on according to this framework.

The proposal should be typed, double-spaced, with no spelling or grammar errors. The proposal should be 3-5 pages in length. **Attach a copy of the policy to the paper.**

Due date: October 13, 2002

Group Policy Analysis Paper

Using the chosen policy and the chosen framework identified in the proposal, analyze this policy. Propose changes to the policy based on what was learned from the analysis process. The following points must be included in the paper:

17. A description and discussion of the policy. How does this policy affect vulnerable populations? Attach a copy of the policy to your paper.
18. A description and discussion of your chosen policy analysis framework. Provide a rationale for why you chose this particular model.
19. Using your chosen model, provide a step-by- step analysis of your policy.
20. Based on your analysis, provide specific recommendations for policy changes. These recommendations are to be based on the objective information you obtained in the analysis process.
21. If relevant, include an international perspective to the analysis.

The paper will be graded on how well the policy is critically analyzed. Are statistics, case examples, research, and objective information used to support the analysis process? Are both opponent and proponent positions discussed in the analysis? The papers should be at least 15 pages in length, typed, and doubled spaced. **Use APA style of referencing.**

Due date: December 8, 2003

Required Course Text:

DiNitto, D. (2000). *Social welfare: Politics and public policy, 5th ed.* Boston: Allyn and Bacon.

Optional:

Karger, H. & Stoesz, D. (2002). *American Social Welfare Policy: A pluralist approach.* New York: Allyn and Bacon.

Jansson, B. (1999). *Becoming an Effective Policy Advocate: From policy practice to social justice.* Pacific Grove, CA: Brooks/Cole.

Jansson, B. (1997). *The Reluctant Welfare State*. Pacific Grove, CA: Brooks Cole.

Trattner, W. (1999). *From Poor Law to Welfare State: A History of Social Welfare in America*, 6th Ed. New York: Free Press.

August 25	<p>Social Policy: An Introduction Course overview, review syllabus, assignments, texts, readings, and academic integrity. Why is social welfare policy important to social work practice?</p> <p>In class exercise: social policy practice</p>
September 1	<i>Labor Day, No Class</i>
September 8	<p>What is social welfare and why is it important? Defining social welfare; understanding it from an ecological system perspective; distinguishing social welfare systems from social welfare policy and social welfare programs. Politics, Rationalism, and Social Welfare</p> <p>Readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Popple & Leighninger, Chapter 2. • Dittno, Diana. Chapter 1: The American Public and Social Welfare, pp.17-31. • Karger & Stoesz, Chapter 1: Social Policy and the American Welfare State, pp. 2-6. • Schiele, J. H. (1997). An Afrocentric Perspective on Social Welfare Philosophy and Policy. <i>Journal of Sociology and Social Welfare</i>, 24(2), pp. 21-39. • Karger & Stoez, Chapter 8: The Making of Government and Social Policy, pp. 206-232.
September 15	<p>History of social welfare policy, organization and structure of the American social welfare system, policy as a form of social control</p> <p>Readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DiNitto, D. Chapter 2: Government and Social Welfare • Atkins, J. M. (1987). Social Welfare Policy: Trends and Issues, pp. 664-681. In <i>Encyclopedia of Social Work</i> (18th ed.), Vol 2. NASW Press.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Karger & Stoesz, (1998) <i>American Social Welfare Policy, 3rd Edition</i>, Chapter 3: The Origins and Future of American Social Welfare, pp. 50-77. <p>In class exercise: Important era in social policy development.</p>
September 22	<p>Ethics and values in the policy process, underlying assumptions of social policy, ideologies and social policy, NASW Code of Ethics. Policy research using the internet.</p> <p>Readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prigmore, C. & Atherton, C. (1979). Values and choices in contemporary social welfare policy, pp. 23-40. • Handout: NASW Code of Ethics • Galambos, C. (1997). Quality of Life for the Elder: A reality or an illusion? In <i>Journal of Gerontological Social Work</i>, 27, 3, 27-44. • Karger & Stoez, Chapter 3: Technology and Social Policy pp 40-54. <p>In class exercise: ethical decision-making.</p>
September 29	Field Trip to assigned community agency.
October 6	<p>Analyzing Social Welfare Policy: A review of four frameworks will be discussed (Karger & Stoez, DiNitto, Chipungu, Johnson, Schwartz & Tate.</p> <p>Readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Karger & Stoesz, Chapter 2: Social Welfare Policy Research: A Framework for Policy Analysis, pp. 29-38. • DiNitto, D. Chapter 1: Politics, Rationalism, and Welfare, pp. 1- 17. • Chipungu, S. (1991). A Value-based policy framework, pp. 290 B 305. In Everett, J.; Chipungu, S., & Leashore, B. (1991). <i>Child welfare: An Africentric perspective</i>. • Johnson, L. C., Schwartz, C.L., & Tate, D.S. (1997). Chapter 15 The contemporary social welfare system. In <i>Social welfare: A response to human need</i>, 4th Ed. 315-328. <p>Class exercise: How to select the appropriate framework for your policy?</p>

<p>October 13 Class will begin at 5:30 pm.</p>	<p>Defining poverty: Who are the poor? Theories of poverty; strategies for combating poverty.</p> <p>Readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DiNitto, D. Chapter 3, pp. 66-98. • DiNitto, D. Chapter 9, pp. 288-317. • Albeda, R. & Tilly, C. (2001). Women, income & poverty: There's a family connection. In Rotherberg, R.S. (2001). <i>Race, Class, & Gender in the United States</i>. New York: Worth Publishing. • Bane, M.J. & Elwood. (1986). Slipping into and out of poverty: The Dynamics of Spells. <i>The Journal of Human Resources</i>, 21(1). <p>Policy analysis proposals due!</p>
<p>October 20</p>	<p>Mid-Term Exam</p>
<p>October 27</p>	<p>Preventing Poverty: Social Insurance Programs. Guest Speaker (TBA) Definition and background of social insurance. Key social insurance programs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ? OASDI ? Unemployment Insurance ? Worker=s Compensation ? Earned Income Tax Credit ? Medicare, Medi-gap, long term care <p>Readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DiNitto, D. Chapter 4, pp 102-129. • Beverly, Sondra, G. (2002). What Social Workers Need to Know about the Earned Income Tax Credit. <i>Journal of the National Association of Social Workers</i>, 47(3), pp. 259-266. • Toner, R. & Pear, R. (<i>Senate Rebuffs Bid to Close a Gap in Medicare drug Coverage</i>. New York Times (6/24/03). • Stolberg, Sheryl Gay. <i>New Drug Plan far from Cure-All, Retirees Find</i>. New York Times (6/24/03).
<p>November 3</p>	<p>Public Assistance Programs. Assumptions underlying public assistance, U.S. farm policies; Rural poverty. Key public assistance programs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ? AFDC/TANF, welfare reform, Families First ? Medicaid ? SSI ? Housing ? Nutritional programs ? WIC, Food Stamps

	<p>Readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DiNitto, D. Chapter 5, 6, 7, pp. 133-244. • Executive Summary of the Bush Administration’s New Medicaid Proposal. • Wedel, K.R. & Butler, F.C. (1999) Welfare reform and demand for rural public transportation. In LeNay, C., Edwards, R., Reid, N., <i>Preserving and Strengthening Small Towns and Rural Communities</i> Washington D.C.: NASW Press • Lens, V. (2002). TANF: What Went Wrong and What to Do Next. <i>Journal of the National Association of Social Workers</i>, 47(3), pp.279-290. • Abramovitz, M. ((2001). Everyone is Still on Welfare: The Role of Redistribution in Social Policy. <i>Social Work</i>, 46 (4), 297-308. Washington, DC: NASW. <p>In class exercise: Welfare Reform debate.</p>
<p>November 10</p>	<p>Issues of Health Care, Mental Health & Substance Abuse; Children, the Elderly, and People with Mental Illness. History and reform efforts Managed care, Parity for mental health care, Comparative analysis and Long-term care. Guest Speaker: Dr. MacMaster</p> <p>Readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DiNitto, D. Chapters 8 & 10, pp. 250-285 & 320- 355.. • Karger & Stoez, Chapter 13: Mental Health and Substance Abuse Policy, pp. 358 - 386. • Hooyman, Kiyak, & Asuman, (1999). <i>Social Gerontology</i>, Ch. 16: Health & Long Term Care Policy & Programs, pp. 471-494. • Greene, R. & Knee, R. (1996). <i>Shaping the Policy Practice Agenda of Social Work</i>(41)5, pp. 553-560. • Cohen, N. (2000). <i>Child Welfare: A Multicultural Focus</i>, Chapter 1: Child Welfare History in the United States, pp. 15-39.
<p>November 17</p>	<p>Issues of Discrimination, Oppression and Inequality; Historical and current trends in American society: Racism, sexism, sexual orientation, ageism, persons with disabilities.</p> <p>Readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DiNitto, D. Chapter 11, pp. 360-403 • Young, W. M. Chapter 3: Building an Open Society. In “Beyond Racism”, pp. 151- 202. • Stout, D. Supreme Court Splits on Diversity Efforts at University of Michigan. <i>Washington Post</i>, 6/23/03).

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Patterson, Orlando. Affirmative Action: the Sequel. New York Times 6/22/03. • Diversity and Social Justice: The Impact of Race, Ethnicity, Class, Gender, and Sexual Orientation, pp.86- <p>In class exercise: TBA</p>
November 24	<p>Skills for policy practice: Affecting change. Guest Speaker (TBA). Understanding the policy process, recognizing and using power, strategies of policy persuasion, Implementing and Evaluating policy.</p> <p>Readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jansson, B. (1999) <i>Becoming an Effective Policy Advocate: From policy practice to social justice</i>. Pacific Grove, CA: Brooks/Cole Chapter 1: Why Engage in Policy Practice and Policy Advocacy, pp. 1-28; Chapter 9: Policy Persuasion, pp. 231 - 255. • Linhorst, D. M. Federalism and Social Justice: Implications for Social Work. <i>Journal of the National Association of Social Workers</i>, 47(3), pp. 201-208. • DiNitto, D. Chapter 12, pp. 407-431.
December 1	Class Presentations.
December 8	Class Presentations Final Papers & Journals Due.

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